
*DOE Information Bridge:
Disseminating a Principle
Deliverable of R&D Funding*

Don Altom

*Office of Scientific and Technical
Information*

*Office of Science
Department of Energy*

15 June 1999

DOE Information Bridge Map

- *Background*
- *R&D Cycle*
- *“Bridge” Development*
- *Current Status*
- *Future Plans*
- *Q/A*

DOE Information Bridge Background

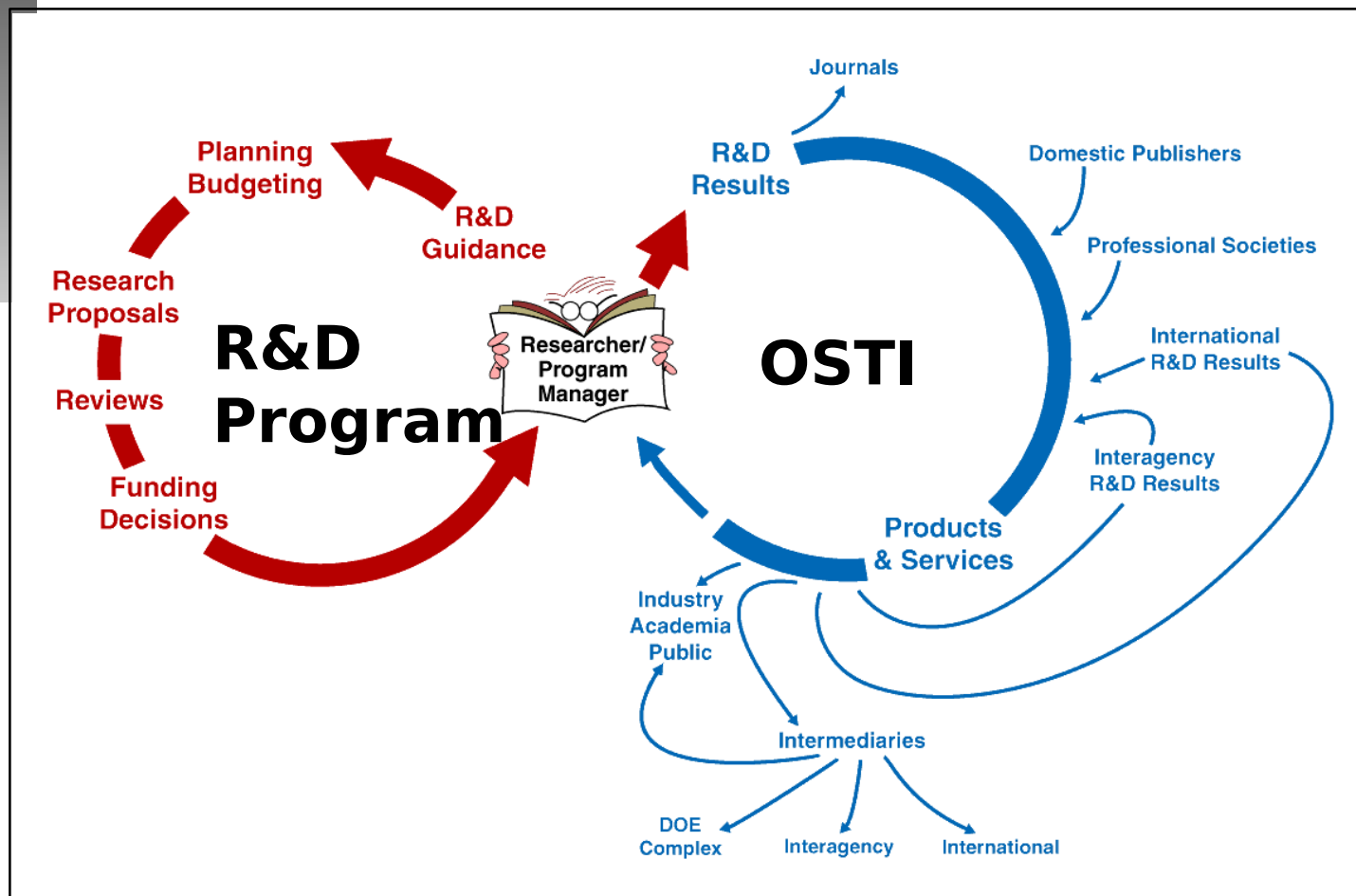
■ Department of Energy (DOE)

- Major R&D enterprise*
- Enable good science; annual \$7B R&D budget*
 - 66 Nobel laureates (funded by DOE and predecessor agencies)*
 - Numerous R&D 100 awards*
- Highly decentralized; 70+ sites, from Long Island, NY to California*

DOE Information Bridge Background (cont)

- *Office of Scientific and Technical Information (OSTI)*
 - *Develop and promulgate policies, best business practices for scientific and technical information generated by annual \$7B R&D investment*
 - *DOE reports as contract deliverables*
- *Collect, process, provide access to R&D results; since 1947*
 - *In partnership with DOE STI community*

DOE Information Bridge R&D Cycle



09/12/16

DOE Information Bridge Development

- *OSTI physical repository of 1.5 million DOE reports (dating from Manhattan Project)*
 - *Paper, deteriorating; analog media*
 - *Existing bibliographic records describing reports*
- *Initiated electronic archive project*
 - *Scan paper reports; create TIFFG4 images*
 - *Build database to link TIFF, bibliographic*

DOE Information Bridge Development (cont)

- *Concurrent with electronic archive, monitored evolving Internet and associated information technologies*
- *Technology, customer access needs reached “critical mass” in early 1997*
 - *Gained experience Web applications*
 - *Decided to provide Web access to electronic archive, DOE report collection*
 - *Utilize standard browsers, standard commercial “tools”*

DOE Information Bridge Development (cont)

- *Developed prototype; password protected*
 - *Built Web site; OCR'd TIFF images*
- *Functionality*
 - *Search: easy and advanced (Boolean)*
 - *Bibliographic; fielded search*
 - *Full text (OCR'd text); view TIFF image*
 - *Download full text to desktop*
- *Announced to DOE community Sep 97; 21k
DOE reports 1.3 M pages dating from Jan 96*

DOE Information Bridge Development (cont)

- *Expanded access to public via Government Printing Office (GPO) partnership*
 - *Developed public “view” to unclassified, unlimited distribution DOE reports*
- *Functionality - similar to DOE prototype*
 - *Eliminated passwords; improved navigation*
 - *Simplified search, download functions*
 - *Provided “point and click” icons*
- *Announced April 1998; 23k DOE reports 1.5 M pages*

DOE Information Bridge

Current Status

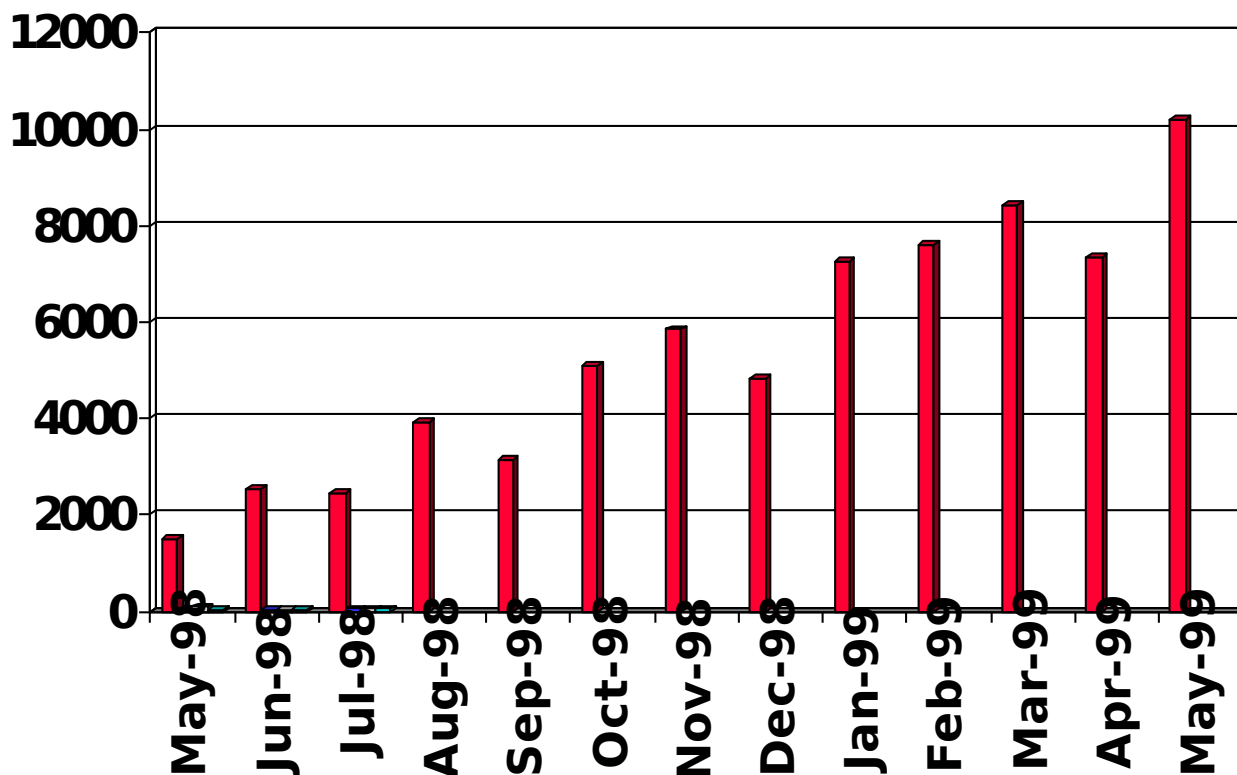
- *Provide public access 38k DOE reports; 2.5 M pages*
 - *Growth 15k reports per year*
- *Encourage electronic exchange; “paperless”*
 - *DOE sites post documents on local server; provide URL*
 - *“Bridge” links to report via URL*
 - *Maintain core functionality noted above*

DOE Information Bridge

Current Status (cont)

- *Received awards/recognition*
 - *Numerous, including “Hammer Award” from Vice President Gore*
 - *Positive customer feedback*
- *Identified performance metrics*
 - *Web access statistics not exact science*
 - *Document downloads metric of choice*
 - *Anticipated 50k in first year; achieved 70k*
 - *Estimated \$3M annual user savings*

DOE Information Bridge Document Downloads



DOE Information Bridge Future Plans

- *Address identified customer needs*
 - *Incorporate legacy materials*
 - *Pre-1996 OSTI collection*
 - *Provide access to existing Web collections; DOE, domestic, and international*
 - *Negotiate access to journal literature*
- *Encourage electronic exchange efforts; standard formats, URLs,*
- *Upgrade hardware and software platforms*

DOE Information Bridge Future Plans (cont)

- *“Bridge” component of DOE Virtual Library of Energy Science and Technology*
- *Other components*
 - *PubSCIENCE new initiative to provide access to full text journal literature*
 - *Collaboration with journal publishers*
 - *Harold Varmus, NIH, electronic publishing operation “e-biomed”*
 - *Supplant journal publishers*

DOE Information Bridge Summary

■ *What:*

- *Provide researchers and scientific public access to intellectual results of R&D funding by cabinet-level agency*

■ *How:*

- *Utilize proven information technologies*
- *Leverage 50+ years experience with information life-cycle management*

■ *Bring “Science to the Desktop”*

DOE Information Bridge Contacts

- *DOE/GPO partnership*
 - *<http://www.doe.gov/bridge>*
- *Product manager*
 - *Kathy Chambers, 423.576.0487*
 - *kathy_chambers@ccmail.osti.gov*
- *Project manager*
 - *Don Altom, 423.576.1170*
 - *don_altom@ccmail.osti.gov*